

GEOGRAPHY

The environmental and spatial science of geography examines both physical and cultural landscapes across the Earth. As a spatial science, physical and cultural location and patterns on Earth's surface are central to the study of geography. It includes the study of all forces of nature and the consequences of those forces, with an emphasis on human-environment interactions.

Specifically, geography integrates multiple natural and social sciences and includes: the nature and interactions of the atmosphere and the land, plants and animals, the Earth's waters, weather, climate, the Earth's dynamic surface, landforms and soil, and the way people have inhabited and altered the Earth by creating various forms of agriculture, language, religion, and cities.

Courses in geography fulfill the science and social sciences requirement for the associate degree, prepare the students for majoring in geography at a four-year institution, and supplement other studies for students interested in careers in environmental studies, education, engineering, urban planning, and architecture. Students planning to transfer to a four-year institution as a geography major should consult with a counselor regarding the transfer process and lower division requirements.

Contact Information

Division: Science (PS - 148)

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Faculty Chairs: Todd Heibel (theibel@sbccd.edu), Ph.D. and Matthew Robles (mrobles@sbccd.edu), M.S.

Counselor Liaisons: Elizabeth Banuelos (ebanuelos@sbccd.edu), M.S. and Erica Begg (ebegg@sbccd.edu), M.S.

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- Geography Associate in Arts for Transfer Degree (<http://catalog.valleycollege.edu/degree-certificate-program-index/geography/geography-aat-degree/>)
- Geography Associate of Science Degree (<http://catalog.valleycollege.edu/degree-certificate-program-index/geography/geography-as-degree/>)

GEOG 100 3 Units

Map Interpretation and Geospatial Analysis

Lecture: 36 contact hours

Lab: 54 contact hours

Advisory: ECON 208 or MATH 108 or MATH 108H or PSYCH 105 and ENGL 101 or ENGL 101H

Have you ever wondered how the traffic map works on your phone? Do you enjoy exploring maps and satellite images online? This class is an introduction to maps, images and geospatial techniques and technologies. The technologies covered in this course include map and aerial photograph interpretation, tabular data, spatial statistics, cartography, Global Positioning Systems (GPS), automated and web-based mapping, remote sensing, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS), all of which aid in data collection, analysis and presentation. Theories, methods, and ethics within GIS, GPS, remote sensing, cartography, and field work play a central role in this course. This course also highlights how GIS and geospatial analytical tools can address longstanding issues related to economic, environmental, political, racial, and social justice. (This course is also offered as GIS 100).

Associate Degree Applicable

Transfers to both UC/CSU

C-ID: GEOG 150

GEOG 102 3 Units

Cultural Geography

Lecture: 54 contact hours

Advisory: Eligibility for college level English and Mathematics based on the SBVC Guided-Self Placement process.

Are you fascinated with the enormous diversity of culture, language, religion, economics, politics, urbanization, agriculture, and ethnicity around the world? Have you ever wondered how this developed? Are you concerned about human rights, social justice, climate change, and access to clean drinking water, healthcare, education, and resources? Using the tools of geography, this course will help you to understand how humans interact each other and how humans interact with the environment.

Associate Degree Applicable

Transfers to both UC/CSU

C-ID: GEOG 120

GEOG 106 3 Units

Geographic Perspectives on the Environment

Lecture: 54 contact hours

Advisory: Eligibility for college level English and Mathematics based on the SBVC Guided-Self Placement process.

Within the early decades of the 21st century, the enormous impact of humans on the natural environment is clear. This course provides an introductory study of the latest geographic perspectives of critical environmental issues occurring within and across local, regional, national, and global scales. It creates an awareness of the geography of human-environment relationships, in particular how nature and natural resources are defined, contested, distributed, and consumed. Emphasis is on social, political, cultural, psychological, and economic evaluation of natural resources and associated resource management.

Associate Degree Applicable

Transfers to both UC/CSU

GEOG 110 3 Units**Physical Geography****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Advisory:** Eligibility for college level English and Mathematics based on the SBVC Guided-Self Placement process.

You may have noticed that Earth's atmosphere, life forms, water resources, and landforms vary considerably from one place to another. This class helps you to understand how and why these variations occur, how the environment impacts us humans, and how we humans impact the environment. People from different backgrounds experience environmental impacts differently, so environmental justice is interwoven throughout this course. GEOG 111/GEOG 111H is strongly recommended for students who desire to transfer to CSU/UC. It is recommended that students complete GEOG 111/GEOG 111H within three years of completing GEOG 110.

Associate Degree Applicable**Transfers to both UC/CSU****C-ID:** GEOG 110**GEOG 111 1 Unit****Physical Geography Laboratory****Lab:** 54 contact hours**Prerequisite/Corequisite:** GEOG 110

In this laboratory companion for the GEOG 110 physical geography lecture course, you will use hands-on, in-class and field-based experiences to better understand and appreciate how and why Earth's atmosphere, life forms, water resources, and landforms vary considerably from one place to another. Because we humans are part of the physical environment, it is important to understand how people from different backgrounds impact the environment and experience environmental impacts differently. This course is recommended for students concurrently enrolled in GEOG 110 or who have successfully completed the course within the last three years. Students should be prepared to participate in one or more off-campus field exercises.

Associate Degree Applicable**Transfers to both UC/CSU****C-ID:** GEOG 111**GEOG 111H 1 Unit****Physical Geography Laboratory - Honors****Lab:** 54 contact hours**Prerequisite/Corequisite:** GEOG 110

In this laboratory companion for the GEOG 110 physical geography lecture course, you will use hands-on, in-class and field-based experiences to better understand and appreciate how and why Earth's atmosphere, life forms, water resources, and landforms vary considerably from one place to another. Because we humans are part of the physical environment, it is important to understand how people from different backgrounds impact the environment and experience environmental impacts differently. This course is recommended for students concurrently enrolled in GEOG 110 or who have successfully completed the course within the last three years. Students should be prepared to participate in one or more off-campus field exercises. This course is intended for students in the Honors Program but is open to all students who desire more challenging coursework.

Associate Degree Applicable**Transfers to both UC/CSU****C-ID:** GEOG 111**GEOG 114 4 Units****Weather and Climate****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Lab:** 54 contact hours**Advisory:** Eligibility for college level English and Mathematics based on the SBVC Guided-Self Placement process.

Do you monitor the daily weather? Are you intrigued by severe weather events like tornadoes, tropical cyclones, blizzards, and flooding rain? This course covers Earth's atmospheric phenomena, with special reference to causes and regional distribution of weather and climate, both past and present. Topics include atmospheric structure and composition, solar radiation and energy balances, temperature, seasonal changes, atmospheric moisture, clouds and fog, precipitation, air pressure, winds, air masses and fronts, cyclones, weather forecasting, climate, and climate change. Emphasis will be given to current environmental topics, including natural and anthropogenic global climate change, air pollution, and environmental justice.

Associate Degree Applicable**Transfers to both UC/CSU****C-ID:** GEOG 130**GEOG 118 3 Units****California Geography****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Advisory:** Eligibility for college level English and Mathematics based on the SBVC Guided-Self Placement process.

California is an incredibly diverse state. Its cultural, ethnic, socioeconomic, urban, and rural landscapes comprise an endlessly complex and fascinating tapestry. If it were an independent country, its economy would be the fifth-largest in the world. While the California Dream looms large, skyrocketing housing costs, socioeconomic and racial injustice, pervasive drought, and a year-round fire season are making this dream unattainable for many. This course provides a thematic approach to the state's issues, processes, and topics relevant to geography including climate, landforms, natural vegetation, water resources, cultural landscape, ethnic diversity, urban and agricultural regions, and the economy. This course explores the physical, and human landscapes that have evolved as a result of the human-environment interface.

Associate Degree Applicable**Transfers to both UC/CSU****C-ID:** GEOG 140**GEOG 120 3 Units****World Regional Geography****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Advisory:** Eligibility for college level English and Mathematics based on the SBVC Guided-Self Placement process.

Every day, we learn about new and ongoing migration, refugee, environmental, economic, health, and geopolitical crises and conflicts happening somewhere in the world. Therefore, it is important to understand the complex and fascinating spatial interrelationships among our world regions. This course provides an introduction to world regional geography, emphasizing the nature of major cultural regions of the world. Through a comprehensive regional analysis, students will learn social structures, religions, languages, political systems, economics, environmental relationships, transportation networks, population dynamics, and urban development across the globe.

Associate Degree Applicable**Transfers to both UC/CSU****C-ID:** GEOG 125

GEOG 130 3 Units**Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS)****Lecture:** 36 contact hours**Lab:** 54 contact hours**Advisory:** ECON 208 or MATH 108 or MATH 108H or PSYCH 105 and ENGL 101 or ENGL 101H

How do corporations know where to locate retail stores and restaurants? How do epidemiologists know how to confront epidemics, pandemics, and related disease outbreaks? How does your utility provider know the location of power outages and water leaks? How do demographers create maps based on ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, gender, religious affiliation, and other population characteristics? The answers to these questions and more are found within Geographic Information Systems (GIS). This course provides an introduction to the fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), including the history of automated mapping. It includes a brief introduction to basic cartographic principles, including map scales, coordinate systems and map projections. GIS hardware and software are implemented, as are various applications of GIS technology used in environmental science, business and government. Using automatic mapping software like ArcGIS Online, ArcGIS Pro, ArcMap, and Story Maps, you will create maps that address a variety of local to global issues. (This course is also offered as GIS 130)

Associate Degree Applicable**Transfers to both UC/CSU****GEOG 222 1-3 Units****Independent Study in Geography****DIR:** 54 contact hours

Students with previous course work in Geography may do assigned projects involving research and analysis of selected topics. This independent study is for students who are interested in furthering their knowledge of Geography. Prior to registration, a written contract must be prepared jointly by the instructor and the student.

Associate Degree Applicable**Transfers to CSU only**